

Message Text

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ACTION VO-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 228

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 8082

PASS SCI

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TO TEXT NBRD PARA ONE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CVIS UR BCOM TGEN TECH OTRA (AYAKAZYAN, EDUARD
ASATUROVICH)

SUBJ: VISA REFUSAL

REF: STATE 128415

1. EMBASSY NOTES DEPARTEMENT'S REFUSAL OF VISA TO
EDUARD ASATROVICH AYKAZYAN WHO HAD APPLIED TO VISIT
A MICHIGAN FIRM FOR COMMERCIAL NEGOTIATIONS. AYKAZYAN,
WHO IS DEPUTY CHIEF OF USA DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN RELATIONS
ADMINISTRATION OF STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY (SCST), HAD EARLIER RECEIVED DEPARTMENT
AUTHORIZATION TO ATTEND THE FIRST SESSION OF US-USSR
JOINT COMMISSION FOR S AND 5 COOPERATION IN WASHINGTON,
MARCH 19-21 1973. AYKAZYAN IS AMONG THE SO-CALLED
"BRITISH 105" EXPELLED FROM GREAT BRITIAN IN SEPTEMBER 1971.

2. AYKAZYAN'S REFUSAL PRESENTS SOME PROBLEMS FOR THE
EMBASSY . SINCE HIS ARRIVAL AT SCST, HE HAS BEEN GIVEN
MORE AND MORE RESPONSIBILITY IN HANDLING COMMERCIAL AND
SCIENTIFIC INTERACTION WITH THE U.S. HE AND HIS STAFF
HAVE COORDINATING RESPONSIBILIITY FOR US-USSR AGREEMENTS
IN S AND 5, TRANSPORTATION, AND OCEANOGRAPHY, AND FOR
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SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGES UNDER THE GENERAL EXCHANGES AGREEMENT.

OUR SCIENTIFIC ATTACHE DEALS WITH HIM ON ALMOST DAILY BASIS AND REGARDS HIM AS A KEY OPERATIONAL CONTACT IN IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE AGREEMENTS. AYKAZYAN'S REFUSAL MAY ADVERSELY AFFECT THIS EFFECTIVE RELATIONSHIP. SIMILARLY, ON ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL MATTERS, AYKAZYAN AND HIS STAFF REPRESENT MOST VALUABLE CHANNEL FOR ARRANGING APPOINTMENTS FOR US BUSINESSMEN AND IN MANY OTHER WAYS SERVE AS IMPORTANT COORDINATING LINK FOR US COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES IN USSR. IN LARGE MEASURE, IT HAS BEEN AYKAZYAN WHO HAS MADE THE SCST USA DIVISION STAFF MORE RESPONSIVE THAN BEFORE TO EMBASSY REQUESTS FOR OPERATIONAL ASSISTANCE OR IN COMMERCIAL AND SCIENTIFIC MATTERS. BECAUSE OF HIS EXCELLENT ENGLISH, EMBASSY FORSEES INCREASINGLY FREQUENT APPLICATIONS BY AYKAZYAN TO VISIT US FOR SCIENTIFIC OR COMMERCIAL TALKS.

3. IF AYKAZYAN WAS REFUSED ESSENTIALLY IN DEFERENCE TO EARLIER BRITISH REPRESENTATIONS TO USG, EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECONSIDERATION OF THE REFUSAL ON GROUNDS THAT AYKAZYAN'S PROPOSED STAY WOULD ONLY BE BRIEF AND THAT HE RECEIVED U.S. AUTHORIZATION SEVERAL MONTHS AGO. POST'S UNDERSTANDING IS THAT BRITISH GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN BASICALLY CONCERNED ABOUT PREVENTING PERMANENT ASSIGNMENT OF ANY OF 105 TO NATO COUNTRIES. MINISTER TEBBIT'S REPRESENTATION REPORTED IN DAVIES-TIBBIT MEMCON (OCT 3, 1972) DOES NOT APPEAR ON ITS FACE DESIGNED TO PRECLUDE SHORT-TERM TEMPORARY VISITS BY THOSE ON THE LIST WHEN CLEARLY IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST. UNLESS AYKAZYAN ABUSED HIS STATUS OR OTHERWISE MISBEHAVED ON HIS MOST RECENT TRIP, EARLIER DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZATION SEEMS TO INDICATE DEPARTMENT WILL INDEED EXAMINE 105 CASES ON INDIVIDUAL BASIS, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT SUCH FACTORS AS LENGTH OF STAY, DESTINATION, PURPOSE.

4. AN EQUALLY COMPLICATED CASE INVOLVING A BRITISH 105 LISTEE MAY DEVELOP IN NEAR FUTURE AS RESULT OF ASSUMPTION BY IVAN PANFILOVICH ZAVORIN OF DUTIES AS USA SECTION CHIEF AT INTOURIST (MOSCOW 6973). IT CAN BE EXPECTED THAT ZAVORIN, WHO IS ON LIST OF "BRITISH 105", WILL WANT TO HAVE TO MAKE BRIEF VISITS FOR COMMERCIAL TOURIST NEGOTIATIONS

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IN COMING MONTHS.

5. EMBASSY VISA FILES, WHICH ARE NOT COMPLETE, DO NOT INDICATE ZAVORIN HAS EVER TRAVELED TO US. THAT ZAVORIN IS ALREADY ACTIVE ON US SIDE OF INTOURIST OPERATIONS IS INDICATED BY HIS NEGOTIATIONS JULY 3 WITH ECON/COMMERCIAL COUNSELLOR ON INTERNATIONAL WEEKEND TOUR PROGRAMS (REPORTED IN MOSCOW 7887).

6. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT'S RECONSIDERATION OF AYKAZYAN REFUSAL (OR EXPLANATION OF THAT REFUSAL, IF FIRM) AND INDICATIONS OF ITS DESIDERATA IN TREATMENT OF BRITISH 105 CASES IN GENERAL. CONSOFFS HAVE NOT YET FORMALLY ADVISED MFA OF AYKAZYAN REFUSAL, BUT AYKAZYAN HAS ALREADY QUERIED EMBASSY ABOUT NOT YET RECEIVING HIS VISA. ALSO, HE HAS INFORMED OCCIDENTAL PETROLEUM REPRESENTATIVE IN MOSCOW, LISSIM, WHO THEN CALLED EMBASSY TO SAY IT WOULD BE GREAT PITY IF AYKAZYAN, WHO IS LEADER OF SOVDEL WAS NOT GRANTED VISA. EMBASSY HAS TEMPORARILY INFORMED BOTH SIMPLY THAT MATTER WAS BEING INVESTIGATED.

7. PLEASE ADVISE BY IMMEDIATE CABLE.
MELENCAMP

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